

2011 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Digest



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PURE *M*ICHIGAN[®]
Hunt 

A multi-species hunt opportunity. Apply as many times as you wish! See page 11.



Regulations apply August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2012, unless otherwise noted.

Visit us on the Web at:
www.michigan.gov/dnr

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A complete listing of regulations and legal descriptions are available on the DNR website at: www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws.

This digest was printed at zero cost to the state of Michigan, which resulted in a savings of more than \$100,000 to the Game and Fish Protection Fund.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both state and federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909-7528 or the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, Suite 3-600, 3054 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202 or the Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

For information or assistance on this publication, contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-7944. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

(07/8/2011)

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC) provides a strategic framework for the DNR to effectively manage the state's natural resources. The NRC works closely with a broad cross-section of constituents to advise the DNR on continuous improvement of resource management policy.

Hunter Harassment

Hunters in Michigan have the right to enjoy their sport free from deliberate interference. Individuals whose hunting is being obstructed should promptly report the violation to a local conservation officer, the nearest DNR Operations Service Center or by calling 800-292-7800.

REPORT ALL POACHING Call: 800-292-7800

Hunting License Fees

Note: See species-specific hunting digests, which are published separately from this digest, for limited-license hunts and license fee information. Apprentice hunting licenses (see page 12) cost the same as the corresponding regular hunting license shown below.

License Number	License Type	Minimum Age	Fee
000	DNR Sportcard		\$1.00
Deer*			
140	Resident Firearm Deer	12	\$15.00
141	Senior Firearm Deer (residents only)	65	\$6.00
142	Nonresident Firearm Deer	17 ¹	\$138.00
145	Resident Archery Deer	17	\$15.00
146	Senior Archery Deer (residents only)	65	\$6.00
147	Junior Archery Deer	10-16	\$7.50
148	Nonresident Archery Deer	17 ¹	\$138.00
340	Combination Deer Resident	17	\$30.00
341	Combination Deer Senior	65	\$12.00
342	Combination Deer Junior	10-16 ²	\$15.00
343	Combination Deer Nonresident	17 ¹	\$276.00
Fur Harvester - Valid through March 31, 2012			
190	Resident Fur Harvester	17 ³	\$15.00
191	Senior Fur Harvester (residents only)	65	\$6.00
192	Junior Fur Harvester	10-16	\$7.50
193	Nonresident Fur Harvester	17 ¹	\$150.00
195	Junior Fur Harvester (trap only)	up to 16 ⁴	\$7.50
Small Game - Valid through March 31, 2012 except 3-day licenses			
130	Resident Small Game	17	\$15.00
131	Senior Small Game (residents only)	65	\$6.00
132	Junior Small Game	10-16	\$1.00
133	Nonresident Small Game	17 ¹	\$69.00
134	3-Day Nonresident Small Game	17	\$30.00
Gamebird Hunting Preserve - Valid through March 31, 2012			
139	Gamebird Hunting Preserve	10	\$15.00

*These hunting licenses expire at the end of the season for which they are issued.
¹ Nonresidents under age 17 may purchase resident licenses.
² Not valid for 10- and 11-year-olds unless crossbow or archery-only hunting.
³ Residents and nonresidents under age 17 may purchase the junior fur harvester license. See page 21 for exceptions.
⁴ Must be age 8 or older to obtain kill tags for bobcat, otter, marten or fisher.

Sportsperson Discount

A 15 percent discount is provided when four or more hunting or fishing licenses are purchased at one time for the same person. These licenses must be purchased in the same transaction. The waterfowl hunting license, 24-hour fishing license and all-species upgrade license are not eligible for this discount.

Lost Licenses and Hunter Safety Certificates

If you lose your Michigan fishing, hunting or fur harvester license, you may purchase a replacement at any license agent. You must provide the ID number used to purchase the original license. The full price will be charged to replace any license with a kill tag. All other licenses cost \$3 to be replaced.

If you lose a private-land antlerless deer license, contact a DNR Operations Service Center (see page 7).

For a replacement Michigan hunter safety certificate, contact a DNR Operations Service Center or call 517-373-3292.

Limited-License Hunting Applications

Applications for limited-license hunts (bear, elk, antlerless deer, turkey and waterfowl) may be purchased during the designated application period from license agents or online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings.

Application Period	
Spring Wild Turkey Hunting	January 1-February 1
Pure Michigan Hunt	March 1-December 31
Bear Hunting	May 1-June 1
Elk Hunting	May 1-June 1
Fall Wild Turkey Hunting	July 1-August 1
Antlerless Deer Hunting	July 15-August 15
Reserved Waterfowl Hunts	August 1-28

Major Changes for 2011

- Baiting and feeding in limited quantities is allowed in the Lower Peninsula except for DMU 487. See page 13.
- The **season** purchase limit for antlerless deer licenses has increased to five statewide (except DMU 486 and DMU 487 have no season limit). See page 14 and the 2011 Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.
- See the Private Lands Open to Public Hunting section for new changes to the Hunting Access Program (HAP) on page 20.
- The marten/fisher bag limit has been reduced to a one-animal combined bag limit (1 fisher OR 1 marten). See page 26.
- The entire skull must be submitted for all registered furbearing species including marten, fisher, bobcat and otter. See page 27.
- The mink and muskrat season has been extended to include the month of February statewide. See page 22.
- The otter limit in Beaver/Otter Unit B has been increased to two (2) with no change in the statewide bag limit of three (3) per person. See page 26.
- Raccoons and opossums have been added to the list of species that may be taken at night with the aid of a call. See page 20.
- Trappers are allowed to use a .22 caliber or smaller rimfire, loaded at the point of kill only, to dispatch lawfully trapped furbearers during the firearm deer season, statewide. See page 22.

Reminders for 2011

- Apply for the Pure Michigan Hunt. Hunters may apply as often as they wish for this unique multi-species hunting opportunity that will allow three lucky individuals to hunt for elk, bear, spring and fall wild turkey, and more. See page 11.
- Hunters 10 years old and older can hunt with a crossbow, with some exceptions. See page 28.
- All commercial hunting guides using state-owned lands must receive written authorization. See page 30.
- Feral swine can be taken all year on private land with permission, and public land, with any valid hunting license or a concealed pistol license. See page 17.
- A combination or firearm deer license is valid for an antlerless deer in DMU 487 during the firearm or muzzleloading season. See page 14 and the 2011 Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.
- You may purchase only one archery deer license AND one firearm deer license OR you may purchase one combination license.
- Importation of hunter-harvested deer, elk or moose carcasses from select states and Canadian provinces into Michigan is prohibited. See page 34 for exceptions and restrictions.
- For information on how to release dogs from traps see the Dog Training section on page 30.

Thank you for purchasing a 2011 Michigan hunting or fur harvester license

Michigan is among the top states in the nation in almost every hunting category, with more than 750,000 licensed hunters contributing over \$900 million annually to our economy.

The mission of the DNR Wildlife Division is to enhance, restore and conserve the State's wildlife resources, natural communities, and ecosystems for the benefit of Michigan's citizens, visitors and future generations.

Your purchase of a hunting or fur harvester license supports the work of department employees who manage and protect Michigan's wildlife habitat. We encourage you to keep hunting and trapping, and to share your experience with others. In doing so, you can do your part to keep our state's wildlife heritage alive for future generations.

Need information?

Contact the Operations Service Centers listed below, open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or visit our website at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Baraga
427 US-41 North
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-6651

Gaylord
1732 W. M-32
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-732-3541

Plainwell
621 N. 10th St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-685-6851

Rose Lake*
8562 E. Stoll Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-641-4903
(*This is a field office)

Bay City
3580 State Park Drive
Bay City, MI 48706
989-684-9141

Marquette
1990 US-41 South
Marquette, MI 49855
906-228-6561

Roscommon
I-75 & M-18 South,
8717 N. Roscommon Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653
989-275-5151

Southfield
26000 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48034
248-359-9040

Cadillac
8015 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601
231-775-9727

Newberry
5100 M-123
Newberry, MI 49868
906-293-5131

RAP (Report All Poaching) 800-292-7800

Wildlife Restoration Program

The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 created a funding mechanism for state wildlife agencies to restore and manage their wildlife resources. A federal excise tax on firearms and ammunition, bows and arrows is collected by the Internal Revenue Service and apportioned to eligible states through a formula based on the number of licensed hunters and the size of each state. Eligible states are those that have passed laws preventing the use of hunting license fees for any purpose other than managing the states' wildlife. The federal excise tax along with hunter license fees are used to acquire lands, protect, restore and manage wildlife habitats, manage wildlife populations, conduct wildlife research, survey and monitor wildlife populations, develop, operate and maintain hunter access, develop, operate and maintain facilities and infrastructure necessary to manage wildlife and to plan for the management of wildlife resources. Additionally, a specific portion of the federal excise tax is dedicated for hunter education, developing and managing shooting ranges. Since its inception in 1937, Michigan's share of the Wildlife Restoration Funds has reached almost \$238 million.



NOTICE: This brochure is not a legal notice or a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed digest issued for hunters' convenience. Copies of Wildlife Conservation Orders can be obtained from our website, www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws.

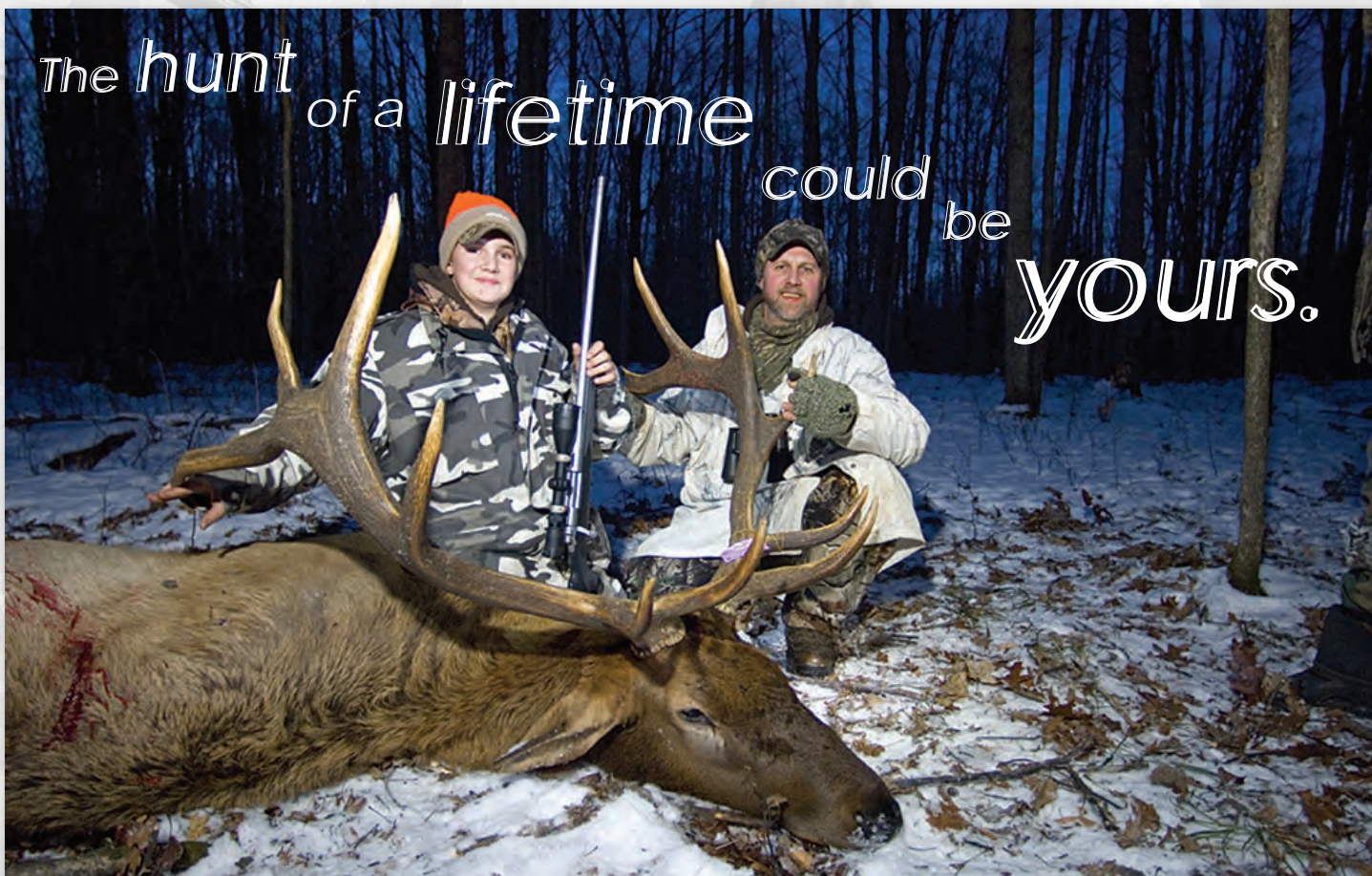
2011-2012 Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

SPECIES	BAG LIMIT	ZONE (page 9)	SEASON DATES						
			Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Black Bear	1	See note 1	Sept. 10-Oct. 26						
Cottontail Rabbit and Varying Hare	5 per day 10 combined possession	Statewide				Sept. 15-Mar. 31			
Crow	No Limit	Statewide		Aug. 1-Sept. 30				Feb. 1-Mar. 31	
Deer	See page 14 for U.P. and DMU 487 buck hunting regulations and antler restriction regulations.								
Early Antlerless Firearm	1 per kill tag	See note 4	Sept. 15-19						
Youth Early Antlerless Firearm	1 per kill tag	DMU 486	Sept. 20-23						
Youth and 100 Percent Disabled Veterans	1	Statewide See page 13	Sept. 24-25						
Special Disabled Firearm Hunt	1 per kill tag	Statewide See page 33		Oct. 13-16					
Archery	1 per kill tag	Statewide	Oct. 1-Nov. 14			Dec. 1-Jan. 1			
Regular Firearm	1 per kill tag	Statewide				Nov. 15-30			
Muzzleloading	1 per kill tag	Zone 1 Zone 2 Zone 3				Dec. 2-11 Dec. 9-18 Dec. 2-18			
Late Antlerless Firearm	1 per kill tag	See note 4					Dec. 19-Jan. 1		
Elk	1	See note 1	Aug. 30-Sept. 2 Sept. 23-26			Dec. 3-11	Jan. 18-22		
Pheasant (male only)	2 per day 4 possession	Zone 1 Zones 2,3 Zone 3 (partial)		Oct. 10-31		Oct. 20-Nov. 14	Dec. 1-Jan. 1		
Quail	5 per day 10 possession	See page 18				Oct. 20-Nov. 14			
Ruffed Grouse	See note 7	Statewide	Sept. 15-Nov. 14				Dec. 1-Jan. 1		
Sharp-tailed Grouse	2 per day 4 possession 6 per season	See page 18				Oct. 10-31			
Squirrel Fox and Gray (black phase included)	5 per day 10 possession	Statewide				Sept. 15-Mar. 1			
Fall Wild Turkey	See note 8	See note 8	Sept. 15-Nov. 14						
Woodcock	3 per day 6 possession	Statewide	Sept. 24-Nov. 7						

Opossum, porcupine, weasel, red squirrel, skunk, ground squirrel, woodchuck, feral pigeons, starling and house sparrows may be taken year-round with a valid hunting license. See State Park and Recreation Area restrictions on page 32.

Notes:

1. See the 2011 Bear Hunting Digest or 2011 Elk Hunting Digest for more information.
2. Crows may be taken outside the open season during hunting hours, in compliance with federal regulations, if these birds are causing a nuisance or creating a health hazard.
3. See page 14 for antler restriction regulations statewide.
4. Antlerless deer in select DMUs on private land. See the 2011 Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.
5. See Zone 1 hunting area map on page 18.
6. See December Pheasant Season map on page 18.
7. Zones 1 and 2: five per day/10 in possession. Zone 3: three per day/six possession.
8. See the 2011 Fall Wild Turkey Digest.
9. Shotguns must be plugged so they are capable of holding no more than three shells. A federal waterfowl stamp is not required to hunt woodcock. HIP endorsement is required. See page 18.
10. A firearm or combination license is valid for any deer during this season.
11. See page 33 for eligibility requirements.
12. Special rules for Ionia and Highland field trial areas. See page 32.
13. See Sharp-tailed Grouse map on page 18.
14. Includes public lands within DMU 486 with appropriate individual DMU license.



It's the *beauty* of the sunrise on opening day.

It's the chance to spend valuable time *outdoors*.

It's the "*thank you*" in your children's eyes.

It's a whole year's worth of stories waiting to be told.

It's everything you love about Michigan – to the EXTREME.

It's the Pure Michigan Hunt.

It's your opportunity to experience the best of hunting in Michigan – drawing winners get licenses to hunt elk, bear, turkey, deer and waterfowl – all in the same year. It's also a chance to help keep Michigan's hunting tradition going strong.

Buy a Pure Michigan Hunt application and you will:

- Increase your odds at being chosen for an elk or bear license.
- Help fund wildlife habitat restoration and improvement.

Three lucky winners will be selected at random and will also win a rifle and crossbow!

Buy as many \$4 applications as you want. Apply at any license agent or online through December 31.



Use your smart phone to scan this code to learn more about Pure Michigan Hunt or visit www.michigan.gov/puremichiganhunt

PURE MICHIGAN[®]
HUNT



Hunting Hours

Below is a map of the hunting hour time zones. Actual legal hunting hours (one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset) for Time Zone A are shown in the table at right.

To determine the opening (a.m.) and closing (p.m.) time for any day in another time zone, add the minutes shown below to the times listed in the Time Zone A Hunting Hours Table.

The hunting hour listed in the table reflects Eastern Standard Time, with an adjustment for daylight-saving time. If you are hunting in Gogebic, Iron, Dickinson or Menominee counties (Central Standard Time), you must make an additional adjustment to the printed time by subtracting one hour.



Pure Michigan Hunt

Winners of the 2012 Pure Michigan Hunt (PMH) may purchase one elk, bear, antlerless deer, spring turkey, and fall turkey hunting license at the cost of \$3 per license, except that non-residents are not eligible to purchase the PMH elk license. Each PMH license is valid for the applicable 2012 species hunting season and may be used in any open hunt area for that species, except bear hunting on Drummond Island. Licenses shall be subject to all 2012 hunting regulations. PMH winners may also participate in one reserved waterfowl hunt at a managed waterfowl area. Individuals who have received an elk license through a prior elk drawing are eligible to apply for the PMH. Purchase of PMH licenses does not affect the hunter's eligibility to apply for or purchase other hunting licenses, and will not affect bear preference points or weighted elk chances the hunter has earned. PMH applicants must be at least 12 years old and eligible to purchase regular (non-apprentice) hunting licenses. Hunters may purchase as many PMH applications as they wish until Dec. 31, 2011. Drawing results will be posted at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings on Jan. 23, 2012.

Float Hunting

Hunting and trapping are exclusive rights of landowners bordering the waterways and their invited guests. You must secure permission from the landowner before float hunting or setting traps along those waterways that are protected by the recreational trespass law.

You may float hunt and trap on and along waterways that are surrounded by public land and open to hunting.

Time Zone A.

Bear, Deer, Fall Wild Turkey, Furbearer and Small Game Hunting Hours Table*

One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset (adjusted for daylight saving time).

For hunt dates not listed in the table, please consult your local newspaper or the DNR website at www.michigan.gov/hunting.

2011	Sept.		Oct.		Nov.		Dec.	
Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	6:27	8:37	6:59	7:44	7:35	6:56	7:12	5:31
2	6:28	8:35	7:00	7:43	7:37	6:55	7:13	5:30
3	6:29	8:33	7:01	7:41	7:38	6:53	7:14	5:30
4	6:30	8:32	7:02	7:39	7:39	6:52	7:15	5:30
5	6:31	8:30	7:04	7:37	7:40	6:51	7:16	5:30
6	6:33	8:28	7:05	7:36	6:42	5:50	7:17	5:30
7	6:34	8:27	7:06	7:34	6:43	5:49	7:18	5:30
8	6:35	8:25	7:07	7:32	6:44	5:48	7:19	5:30
9	6:36	8:23	7:08	7:31	6:45	5:46	7:20	5:30
10	6:37	8:21	7:09	7:29	6:47	5:45	7:20	5:30
11	6:38	8:20	7:10	7:27	6:48	5:44	7:21	5:30
12	6:39	8:18	7:11	7:26	6:49	5:43	7:22	5:30
13	6:40	8:16	7:13	7:24	6:50	5:42	7:23	5:30
14	6:41	8:14	7:14	7:22	6:52	5:41	7:24	5:30
15	6:42	8:12	7:15	7:21	6:53	5:41	7:24	5:30
16	6:43	8:11	7:16	7:19	6:54	5:40	7:25	5:31
17	6:44	8:09	7:17	7:18	6:55	5:39	7:26	5:31
18	6:45	8:07	7:18	7:16	6:57	5:38	7:26	5:31
19	6:46	8:05	7:20	7:14	6:58	5:37	7:27	5:32
20	6:47	8:04	7:21	7:13	6:59	5:36	7:28	5:32
21	6:48	8:02	7:22	7:11	7:00	5:36	7:28	5:33
22	6:49	8:00	7:23	7:10	7:01	5:35	7:29	5:33
23	6:50	7:58	7:24	7:08	7:03	5:34	7:29	5:34
24	6:52	7:57	7:26	7:07	7:04	5:34	7:30	5:34
25	6:53	7:55	7:27	7:06	7:05	5:33	7:30	5:35
26	6:54	7:53	7:28	7:04	7:06	5:33	7:30	5:35
27	6:55	7:51	7:29	7:03	7:07	5:32	7:31	5:36
28	6:56	7:49	7:30	7:01	7:08	5:32	7:31	5:37
29	6:57	7:48	7:32	7:00	7:10	5:31	7:31	5:38
30	6:58	7:46	7:33	6:59	7:11	5:31	7:31	5:38
31			7:34	6:57			7:32	5:39

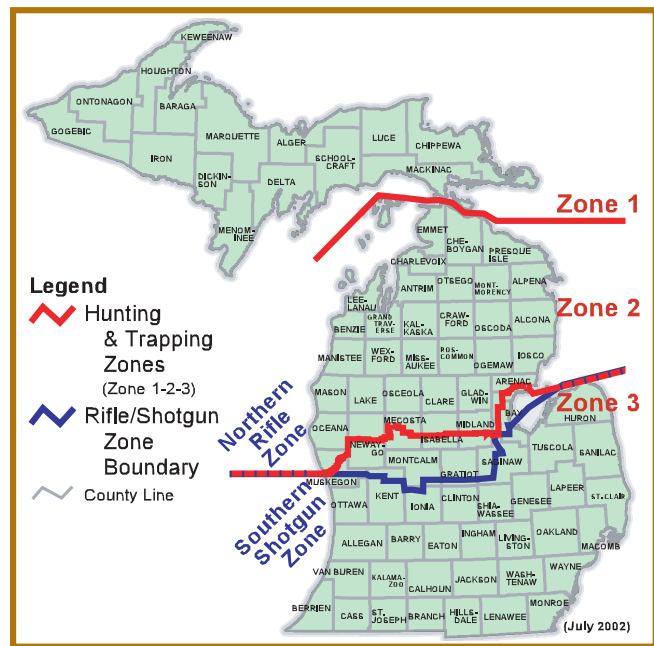
***Exceptions:** Woodcock hunting hours are sunrise to sunset. Spring turkey hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour before sunset. See the 2011 Spring Wild Turkey Digest for legal hunting hours. Waterfowl hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. See the 2011-2012 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Digest for legal hunting hours.

Recreational Trespass

Trespassing is illegal and seriously erodes support for recreational hunting. Permission is required from the landowner or leaseholder before you may hunt on any farm lands or connected woodlots or on any posted private land. Landowners may grant verbal permission. Hunters are required to produce their hunting license to landowners upon request.

If you wound an animal or bird and it runs or flies onto private property, you have no legal right to pursue it without permission of the landowner. Without permission of the landowner, you are trespassing and subject to prosecution.

Hunting and Trapping and Rifle/Shotgun Zones



Michigan is divided into Hunting and Trapping Zones 1-2-3. Zone 1 includes all of the Upper Peninsula. The dividing line between Zones 2 and 3 is: From the Lake Michigan shoreline north of Muskegon Lake easterly on Memorial Drive to Ruddiman Drive to Lake Avenue, easterly on Lake Avenue to M-120 in North Muskegon, northeasterly on M-120 to M-20, easterly on M-20 to US-10, easterly on US-10 to Garfield Road in Bay County, northerly on Garfield Road to Pinconning Road, easterly on Pinconning Road to Seven Mile Road, northerly on Seven Mile Road to Lincoln School Road (County Road 25) in Arenac County, northerly on Lincoln School Road to M-61, easterly on M-61 to US-23, easterly on US-23 to center line of AuGres River, southerly along center line of AuGres River to Saginaw Bay, easterly 90 degrees east for 7 miles into Saginaw Bay, then northerly 78 degrees east to the International Boundary.

Exception: The waterfowl hunting zone lines differ from those above. Refer to the 2011-2012 Waterfowl Hunting Digest for waterfowl zone descriptions.

Michigan also is divided into a northern rifle zone where rifles may be used for firearm deer hunting and a southern shotgun zone where only shotguns, muzzleloading firearms and certain handguns may be used for deer hunting (see page 28). The dividing line between the northern rifle deer hunting zone and the southern shotgun zone is as follows: Starting at a point on the Lake Michigan shoreline directly west of M-46, then easterly to M-46, then easterly along M-46 to US-131 at Cedar Springs, southerly on US-131 to M-57, easterly on M-57 to Montcalm Road on the Kent-Montcalm county line, southerly on Montcalm Road and the Kent-Ionia county line to M-44, easterly on M-44 to M-66, northerly on M-66 to M-57, easterly on M-57 to M-52 near Chesaning, northerly on M-52 to M-46, easterly on M-46 to M-47, northerly on M-47 to US-10 west of Bay City, easterly on US-10 to I-75, northerly on I-75 and US-23 to Beaver Road (about 1 mile north of Kawkawlin), easterly to Saginaw Bay, north 50 degrees east to the International Boundary.

License Information

Regular hunting or fur harvester license

To purchase a regular hunting or fur harvester license, you must have one of the following forms of identification:

- Valid Michigan driver's license
- State of Michigan ID card (issued by the Secretary of State)
- DNR Sportcard (issued through license agents or at www.mdnr-elastic.com). If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you should continue to use it.
- In order to purchase a regular hunting license, all hunters born on or after January 1, 1960, must also present their hunter safety certificate, previous hunting license or sign their license in the presence of the license agent. Your signature certifies that you meet the residency and hunter safety requirements to purchase the license. This also applies to hunters who intend to hunt furbearers under a fur harvester license.**
- All licenses must be signed to be valid.
- When hunting or trapping, you must carry your license and the identification used to purchase that license.
- It is illegal to use another person's hunting license.
- A junior fur harvester-trap only license is available for youngsters who do not satisfy the firearm training requirements for purchasing a hunting license.
- To qualify for any adult resident hunting or fur harvester license, you must meet one of the following criteria:
 - Reside in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state. **The ownership of land in Michigan by itself is not a qualification for a resident license.**
 - Be a full-time student at a Michigan college or university.
 - Serve full time in the U.S. military and be officially stationed in Michigan.
 - Serve full time in the U.S. military and maintain residency in Michigan.

The hunter is responsible for verifying his/her license purchase and for obtaining the appropriate license.

U.S. Military Personnel

U.S. military personnel, excluding reservists, who are stationed outside of Michigan and who, at the time of enlistment, were residents of Michigan and who have maintained resident status, may purchase any hunting license that does not require a separate application for \$1. The individual must present leave papers, duty papers, military orders or other evidence verifying that he or she is stationed outside the state, and a valid Michigan driver's license. The hunting licenses, available at all license agents and DNR Operations Service Centers, are valid for up to two weeks during the established season. The license buyer can designate the exact hunting period.

Apprentice Hunting License

A person who does not have a hunter safety certificate may purchase an apprentice hunting license. An apprentice hunter may purchase this license for two license years before he or she must successfully complete a hunter safety course. The apprentice hunting license is available to residents and nonresidents.

When afield, an apprentice hunter must be accompanied by someone 21 or older who possess a regular current-year hunting license for the same game as the apprentice. For apprentices under age 17, the accompanying hunter must be the apprentice's parent, guardian or someone designated by the parent or guardian.

"Accompanied by" requires the accompanying hunter to be able to come to the immediate aid of the apprentice and stay within a distance that permits uninterrupted, unaided visual and verbal contact. **A person may accompany no more than two apprentice hunters while hunting.**

Rules for Young Hunters (Up to 16 Years of Age)

The following table explains which species youth are allowed to hunt, with an appropriate license. Nonresidents up to 16 years old may purchase resident and junior licenses, except nonresidents are not eligible to apply for a Michigan elk license, including nonresident youth.

Species and Age	9 or younger	10 & 11	12 & 13	14-16
Small Game & Woodcock	No	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Waterfowl	No	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Turkey	No	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Fur Harvester	No	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Trap-only Fur Harvester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Archery/Crossbow Deer & Bear	No	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Archery/Crossbow Elk	No	No	Yes ¹	Yes ¹
Firearm Deer & Bear	No	No	Yes ^{1 2}	Yes ¹
Firearm Elk	No	No	Yes ^{1 2}	Yes ¹

¹ If hunter safety certified and accompanied by an adult 18 years or older, or a youth apprentice with an apprentice license and accompanied by a parent, guardian or someone 21 or older (see Apprentice Hunting License below). "Accompanied by" requires the adult to be able to come to the immediate aid of the apprentice and stay within a distance from the apprentice which allows uninterrupted, unaided visual and verbal contact.

² Private land only.

Youth Hunting Opportunities

2011 Youth Waterfowl Weekend and Youth Waterfowl Hunting on Managed Waterfowl Areas

Youth waterfowl hunting weekend will be Sept. 17-18, 2011 statewide for properly licensed youth (ages 10-15). The daily limit includes ducks, mergansers, geese and coots. Youths must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or someone 18 or older designated by the parent or guardian. The adult is not allowed to carry a firearm or shoot, and is not required to have a waterfowl hunting license. For more details on daily shooting hours, daily limits and species restrictions, see the 2011-2012 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Digest.

For a list of hunting opportunities available for youth (ages 10-16) on managed waterfowl areas during the regular waterfowl season, see the 2011 Waterfowl Reserved Hunt Application Digest.

Youth and 100 Percent Disabled Veteran Firearm Deer Hunting Days

A youth and 100 percent disabled veteran firearm deer hunt will take place on all lands in Michigan Sept. 24-25, 2011. For youth 10 and 11 years old, valid licenses for this two-day hunt include a combination or antlerless license, and crossbow and archery equipment only may be used. For youth 12-16 years old, and qualified veterans with disabilities, valid licenses include a combination, firearm or antlerless deer license.

During this two-day hunt only, a firearm or combination license may be used for an antlered or antlerless deer. A Deer Management Assistance (DMA) permit may also be used to take one antlerless deer only, if issued for the area/land upon which hunting. Archery and junior archery deer licenses are not valid for this hunt. The bag limit for this season is one deer. Also see the Firearm Hunting Rules for Youth Deer Hunters on this page.

A veteran who has been determined to have a 100 percent disability, or is rated as individually unemployable by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, may participate in this hunt. Documentation from the Veterans Administration shall be in the possession of a veteran participating in this hunt.

All hunters are required to wear hunter orange and must have permission from the landowner or leaseholder before hunting on private land. The telephone number of the private landowner is required to acquire a private land antlerless deer license.

Firearm Hunting Rules for Youth Deer Hunters

The following restrictions apply to youth hunters who participate in any firearm deer season:

- Youths 10-11 years of age during the firearm seasons are limited to crossbow or archery-only equipment, using an antlerless or combination license as appropriate for the given season. Archery and junior archery licenses are only valid for the archery seasons.
- Youths 12-13 years of age may hunt with a firearm only on private land and Commercial Forest Land (a public-land antlerless deer license is required to hunt antlerless deer on Commercial Forest Land).
- All hunters under age 17 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or someone 18 or older designated by their parent or guardian.
- All hunters participating in firearm seasons must wear hunter orange.
- For all youth-only firearm deer seasons, an adult accompanying a youth firearm deer hunter cannot possess or carry a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow, except if the adult is a veteran with 100 percent disability. The adult accompanying the youth must have a deer hunting license if the youth is an apprentice hunter (see Apprentice Hunting License on page 12).

Baiting and Feeding Deer or Elk Are Prohibited in DMU 487

Statewide, except for DMU 487, the rules for baiting and feeding deer are as follows:

Baiting:

"Bait" means a substance composed of grains, minerals, salt, fruits, vegetables, hay or other food materials, which may lure, entice or attract deer as an aid in hunting.

- Baiting may occur only from Oct. 1 to Jan. 1.
- The bait material may be of any food type.
- The volume of bait at any hunting site cannot exceed two gallons.
- The bait must be dispersed over a minimum of a 10-foot by 10-foot area.
- The bait must be scattered directly on the ground. It can be scattered by any means, including mechanical spin-cast feeders, provided that the spin-cast feeder does not distribute more than the maximum volume allowed.
- The DNR requests that individuals not place bait or feed repeatedly at the same point on the ground, and only bait when actively hunting. This may minimize the chance of direct and indirect exposure of deer to diseases that may be present.

Feeding for Recreational Viewing:

"Feed" means a substance composed of grain, mineral, salt, fruit, vegetable, hay or other food material, that may attract deer or elk for any reason other than hunting.

- The feed material may be of any food type.
- The volume of feed at any residence cannot exceed two gallons.
- Feed may be no more than 100 yards from a residence on land owned or possessed by that person.
- The feed must be scattered on the ground. It can be scattered by any means, including mechanical spin-cast feeders, provided that the spin-cast feeder does not distribute more than the maximum daily volume allowed.
- The feed must be scattered or dispersed at least 100 yards from any area accessible to cattle, goats, sheep, new world camelids, bison, swine, horses or captive cervidae.
- Food plots, naturally occurring foods, standing agricultural crops or food placed as a result of using normal agricultural practices are not considered to be bait or feed.

White-tailed Deer

Antlered deer means a deer having at least one antler that extends three inches or more above the skull. **Antlerless deer** means a deer without antlers or with antlers where the longest antler extends less than three inches above the skull.

A person is limited to purchasing only two kill tags for taking an antlered (buck) deer. You may purchase one archery license **AND** one firearm license (one kill tag each) **OR** you may purchase one combination license (two kill tags).

If you take two antlered deer, one of the two antlered deer must have at least one antler with four or more antler points one inch or longer. This deer can be taken first or second in either an archery, firearm or muzzleloading season. **Exception:** See U.P. and DMU 487 Buck Hunting Regulations and Antler Restriction Regulations below.

Upper Peninsula and DMU 487 Buck Hunting Regulations

Buck hunting regulations in the Upper Peninsula and Deer Management Unit (DMU) 487 depend upon the type of license purchased.

Option 1 - "One Buck" Limit: Hunters possessing a firearm and/or archery deer license may take only ONE antlered deer in the Upper Peninsula and DMU 487, all seasons combined. Also see Antler Restriction Regulations.

Option 2 - "Two Buck" Limit: Hunters possessing a combination deer license may take two antlered deer in the Upper Peninsula and DMU 487, all seasons combined, but additional antler point restrictions apply (see Antler Restriction Regulations).

Archery Deer Hunting License

It is unlawful to purchase more than one archery deer hunting license. This license entitles residents and nonresidents 10 or older to take one antlered or antlerless deer during the Oct. 1-Nov. 14 or Dec. 1-Jan. 1 open bow and arrow deer season. **Exceptions:** See Antler Restriction Regulations.

Firearm Deer Hunting License

It is unlawful to purchase more than one firearm deer hunting license. Residents and nonresidents 12 or older may take a deer with at least one antler three inches or longer during the Nov. 15-30 regular firearm season or during the muzzleloading season. **Exceptions:** A firearm deer license is valid for an antlerless deer in DMU 487. See the 2011 Michigan Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest. Also see Antler Restriction Regulations on this page and Firearm Hunting Rules for Youth Deer Hunters on page 13.

Combination Deer Hunting License

Residents and nonresidents are entitled to purchase only one license with two kill tags (regular and restricted) for use during the firearm, muzzleloading and archery seasons. These tags are not valid for the early/late antlerless firearm seasons.

A hunter can use both kill tags in the firearm seasons, both in the archery season or one in each season. Youths 10 and 11 are restricted to crossbow or archery-only equipment.

The regular combination kill tag can be used in DMU 487 and all archery seasons to tag either an antlered or antlerless deer. The regular combination kill tag can be used in the firearm seasons to tag a legal (three inches or longer antler) antlered deer except in those areas with antler restrictions as noted in the Antler Restriction Regulations section.

The restricted combination kill tag can be used in DMU 487 and all archery seasons to tag an antlerless deer or it can be used to tag an antlered deer during either the archery or firearms seasons if the antlered deer has at least one antler with four or more antler points each one inch or longer. It is unlawful to use this tag on a smaller antlered deer regardless of the season or area in which it was taken.

Combination kill tags cannot be used to tag an antlerless deer

during the firearm or muzzleloading seasons, except within DMU 487 and during the Youth and 100 Percent Disabled Veteran Firearm Deer Hunt. See the 2011 Michigan Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.

Exception: See Tagging Option for Antlerless Deer Hunters below.

Antlerless Deer Hunting License

This license entitles residents and nonresidents 10 and older to take an antlerless deer or a deer with antlers less than three inches in length within the DMU specified on the license. Hunters may apply for a private-land OR public-land antlerless deer license from July 15-Aug. 15. An application is recommended for public-land antlerless deer hunting or private-land hunting in DMUs where license availability is relatively limited. In some DMUs, private-land antlerless deer licenses are only available over the counter beginning Sept. 6. For additional details on antlerless deer hunting, see the 2011 Michigan Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.

Junior Antlerless Deer Hunting License

Young hunters, ages nine to 16, may purchase one junior antlerless deer license over the counter July 15 through Aug. 15; however, a nine-year old must be 10 by Sept. 15, 2011 to purchase this license. For additional details on the junior antlerless deer hunting license, see the 2011 Michigan Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.

Special Antlerless Deer Seasons

For special antlerless-only deer seasons, please see the 2011 Michigan Antlerless Deer Hunting Digest.

Antler Restriction Regulations

The table below shows the antler restrictions required with specific deer licenses by area or Deer Management Unit (DMU). See map of DMU boundaries on page 15. **New in 2011:** Beaver Island (DMU 115) is now subject to antler point restrictions as noted below.

Exceptions: If you are going to hunt deer in the Upper Peninsula or DMU 487, also see the Upper Peninsula and DMU 487 Buck Hunting Regulations above.

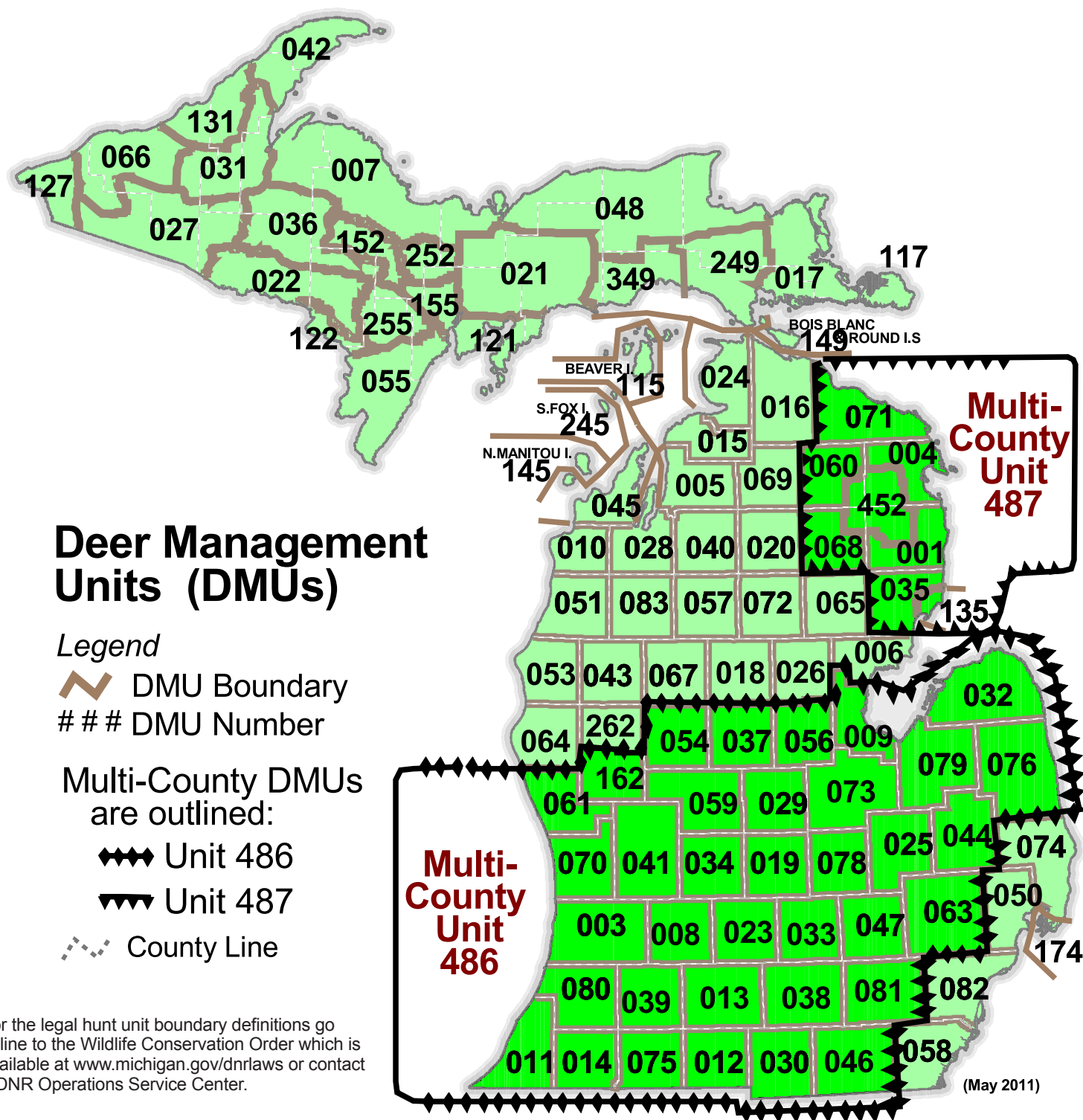
License	1 antler at least 3" long	2 legal pts. on one side*	3 legal pts. on one side*	4 legal pts. on one side*
Regular combination deer license	Lower Peninsula except DMUs 045, 115 & 487	DMU 245	Upper Peninsula and DMUs 045, 115 & 487	
Restricted combination deer license				Statewide
Firearm deer license	Statewide except DMUs 045, 115, 117, 122, 135 & 245	DMUs 117, 135 & 245	DMUs 045, 115 & 122	
Archery deer license	Statewide except DMUs 045, 115, 117, 122, 135 & 245	DMUs 117, 135 & 245	DMUs 045, 115 & 122	

*A legal antler point must be at least one inch long.

Tagging Option for Antlerless Deer Hunters

An antlerless deer hunter, with an unused license valid for an antlered deer and an unused antlerless license for the DMU in which he or she is hunting, may tag a male antlerless deer with the antlered deer license kill tag. Both licenses must be in the hunter's possession at the time of harvest. All deer must be immediately tagged.

A male antlerless deer means a male deer without antlers or with antlers where the longest antler extends less than three inches above the skull.



Hunters, Learn to Identify "Button Bucks"

Each year many hunters harvest buck fawns, commonly called "button bucks" on antlerless deer licenses. Though legal, harvesting these deer may reduce the number of antlered bucks the following year. By learning the difference between adult does and buck fawns and observing these suggestions, hunters can make a conscious choice on whether to harvest a buck fawn.

- Look at body shapes of deer. Adult does are different in shape from juvenile deer. The mature doe is rectangular in shape with a long neck and face. Fawns are square shaped and have a short neck and face.
- Button bucks often travel alone, but adult does rarely do. Consider this when you observe a single antlerless deer.

- Wait until more than three deer are together; then harvest one of the larger antlerless deer.
- If two juvenile deer are without an adult, one will probably be a button buck. Normally the young male is larger than the female and may be mistaken for an adult doe because of its larger size. Look at the head of the deer. A doe's head is normally more rounded on top between the ears and a buck's head is flattened by the base of the antlers.
- Look closely with binoculars for the antler bases on button bucks.
- Wait until the deer are standing or moving slowly. It is easier to identify sex and age when deer are not running or moving fast.
- Shoot with good visibility. Poor light or heavy cover makes it difficult to determine sex and age.

Special Deer Hunts

Fort Custer Training Center

The training center is sponsoring a Freedom Hunt for hunters eligible to participate in the Oct. 14-16 deer hunt for persons with disabilities (see page 33). Applications can be found at www.fortcusterhunt.org or contact Jonathan Edgerly at jonathan.edgerly@us.army.mil or by phone at 269-731-6570. The application deadline is Oct. 1, 2011.

Hoffmaster State Park

Contact the park office at 231-798-3711. This park will be scheduling a managed antlerless deer hunt. Hunters must apply by Sept. 9, 2011.

North Manitou Island Hunts

Deer hunt licenses are available for archery from Oct. 1-28, 2011, muzzleloading and regular firearm from Oct. 29-Nov. 6, 2011. There is a \$25 application fee. For information, contact the Park Headquarters, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, 9922 Front Street, Empire, MI 49630; 231-326-5134, or at www.nps.gov/slbe.

Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge Deer Hunting

Contact the SNWR (6975 Mower Rd., Saginaw, MI 48601) at 989-777-5930.

Shiawassee River State Game Area Deer Hunting

Contact the DNR Field Office (225 E. Spruce Street, St. Charles, MI 48655) at 989-865-6211. The deadline for application is Aug. 1, 2011.

South Fox Island Deer Hunting

Deer hunting permits are available for South Fox Island during archery season from Oct. 1-28 and/or firearm season from Oct. 29 through Nov. 26. Contact: DNR Operations Service Center, 8015 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI 49601; 231-775-9727.

Deer Cooperator Patches

Cooperator patches are used as an incentive for successful hunters to bring their deer to DNR offices and other check stations. A deer head (antlers must still be attached on bucks) or entire carcass must be presented to receive a patch. Patches are not available by mail. Hunters should check the DNR website at www.michigan.gov/deer and media releases for the final list of 2011 deer check stations. Hunters also are urged to call ahead whenever possible to confirm hours and days of operation. **The last day for deer check is Jan. 6, 2012.**

Deer Management Assistance (DMA) Permits

DMA permits may be used to take antlerless deer only. Deer taken with DMA permits do not count against a hunter's regular bag limit. DMA permits are not stand-alone licenses. You must purchase an appropriate deer license for the season in which you are hunting.

Deer Carcass Disposal

Irresponsible dumping of deer carcasses can spread disease and may result in a ticket. Hunters who process their deer should properly dispose of hide, brain and spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils, bones and head in an approved landfill.

Tagging Big Game and Furbearers

Immediately after killing a deer, bear, elk or turkey, you must validate your kill tag and fasten it to the antler, lower jaw or lower leg in such a manner that the tag remains securely attached to the animal. Do not stick or wrap the kill tag to the antler of a deer or to the leg of a turkey.

The best way to attach a kill tag is to lay a strong piece of wire or cord across the sticky side of the kill tag so the tag can be folded in half. Tie the wire or cord to the animal. Make sure the kill tag is completely legible and visible for inspection.

The kill tag must remain attached until you process or butcher the animal, or the animal is accepted for processing and recorded by a commercial processor or taxidermist.

Note: If the antlers or head are returned to the person submitting

the animal to the commercial processor, the kill tag shall accompany the head or antlers.

Immediately after taking a bobcat, otter, fisher or marten, you must validate your kill tag and fasten it in such a manner that the tag remains securely attached to the animal. For details on furbearer kill tags and proper placement, see page 21. Make sure the kill tag is completely legible and visible for inspection.

It is unlawful to tag an animal you did not legally kill.

Control of Certain Nuisance Species

Any ear-tagged cervids (members of the deer and elk family) found outside of a fence of a registered cervidae facility for more than 48 hours may be taken by hunting during designated deer and elk seasons if the individual has a valid hunting license.

Certain exotic cervids, including all white cervids, found outside of a fence of a cervidae facility for more than 48 hours may be taken by hunting year-round if the individual has a valid hunting license.

Hunters are encouraged to shoot feral swine (free-ranging pigs) year-round with any valid hunting license or a concealed pistol license. Feral swine can be taken on public land and, with permission, on private land. Hunters who shoot a feral swine are asked to submit parts of the animal to a DNR office for disease testing. If you see feral swine please record the date, time, precise location and number of swine observed and provide that information to Michelle Rosen at rosenm@michigan.gov or 517-336-5030.

Tracking Wounded Animals with Dogs

A licensed deer, elk or bear hunter, if accompanying a certified dog tracker, shall not have a live round in the chamber, a cocked crossbow, or a bow with a nocked arrow, except at the time and point of kill of the wounded deer, elk or bear. For dog tracker certification requirements see WCO 2.1(a).

Artificial lights ordinarily carried in the hand or on the person may be used.

Restrictions on Off-Road Vehicles and Snowmobiles

At all times it is illegal to operate an off-road vehicle (ORV) on public lands in the Lower Peninsula not posted open. Snowmobiles and ORVs are prohibited at any time on state game areas or state parks and recreation areas unless posted open.

Time Restrictions—It is illegal to operate an ORV or a snowmobile between the hours of 7 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. on any area open to public hunting during the Nov. 15-30 firearm deer season.

Exceptions: The time restrictions on the use of ORVs and snowmobiles do not apply during an emergency or while traveling to and from a permanent residence or hunting camp that is otherwise inaccessible by a conventional wheeled vehicle.

The time restrictions on the use of ORVs also do not apply to those retrieving a legally taken deer, to private landowners and their invited guests, to motor vehicles licensed under the Michigan Vehicle Code operating on roads capable of sustaining automobile traffic, to a disabled person using a designated trail or forest road for hunting or fishing purposes, or to a person with a valid permit to hunt from a standing vehicle.

Don't let your favorite hunting spot go to pot



Growers are using public lands to grow illegal marijuana.

If you come upon a marijuana grow site, back out and call
1-800-235-HEMP (4367)

Rewards available